THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Augmentation in the strength of Central Police Forces personnel is done from time to time, keeping in view the Internal Security scenario and the requirement at the borders. In January 2007, the Government has sanctioned raising of 20 additional Bns. in the Indo Tibetan Border Police alongwith 2 Zonal and 6 Sector Headquarters.

Communal violence

1726. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been disturbing reports of the outbreak of communal violence from various parts of the country during last few weeks; and

(b) if so, the details of the major such incidents that took place since January this year and the steps taken by the Union Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) It is not a fact that there has been disturbing reports of outbreak of communal violence in the country during the last few weeks. However, during January, 2007 some major incidents of communal nature have been reported in the country from Bangalore city, Karnataka; Gorakhpur city, Uttar Pradesh; Mewat-Parbhani, Maharashtra and Indore city, Madhya Pradesh.

"Public Order & Police" are State subjects as per the provisions of the Constitution of India and the State Governments are primarily responsible for registration, investigation of crime and maintenance of law and order. The Union Government shares information and sends alert messages/ advisories to enable the concerned State Governments to take appropriate action. Detailed guidelines for promotion of communal harmony have been issued in October, 1997 to all States/UTs. The Central Para-Military Forces are made available to them on specific requests, and a special Force called the Rapid Action Force has been deployed exclusively for

dealing with communal tensions. Assistance is also being provided to them for improving their policing infrastructure.

The Union Government has also introduced a Bill named 'The Communal Violence (Prevention, Control and Rehabilitation of Victims) Bill, 2005' in Rajya Sabha to address all aspects of the issue of communal violence in a uniform way throughout the country.

Appointing C.P. as authorised person under CTNR Act in A.P.

1727. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government had requested the Central Government to make the Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad city, the Collectors and District Magistrates as 'Authorised Officers' to exercise powers under various provisions of the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1994, since the Head Post Master, though notified as Registration Authority for Cable Television Network under the said Act, does not have field functionaries to ensure implementation of this Act;

(b) if so, the status of the request and time likely to be taken to give clearance to this request; and

(c) the impediments, if any, in giving the clearance?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) References have been received from Andhra Pradesh Government for making the authorized officers under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 the registration authorities also.

(b) and (c) Government is in the process of finalizing the draft of a detailed legislation on Broadcasting Services, namely Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill, 2007. Proposed bill has provisions for authorizing Central Government to notify such officers of the Central/State Government and/or the proposed Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India as may be considered necessary, as the Licensing/registration Authorities to grant, refuse or revoke licenses/registration. The above proposal when duly approved will meet the request of the State Government. The above status has been conveyed to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh.